PHARMACARE NEWSLETTER

Oct 19, 2001
01-12A

Web site: http://www.hlth.gov.bc.ca/pharme/index.html

PLEASE CIRCULATE AMONG DISPENSING STAFF

Clarification regarding

Changes to Coverage of Nasal Corticosteroids

Effective November 19, 2001

In the original information release (*Pharmacare Newsletter 01-12*) regarding changes to the Pharmacare benefit list, no specific reference was made to the nasal corticosteroid **triamcinolone** (Nasacort®, Nasacort AQ®). We regret the omission of this information.

As with the nasal corticosteroids fluticasone and mometasone, **triamcinolone** will no longer be a Pharmacare benefit effective **November 19, 2001**. Pharmacare will provide coverage only for the three least expensive nasal corticosteroids: beclomethasone, budesonide and flunisolide.

This decision is based on a literature review which yielded no conclusive evidence that one nasal corticosteroid is more effective or causes fewer side effects than another in the treatment of Allergic Rhinitis.

The following DINs are affected by this change:

02213834 — Nasocort® AQ

01913328 — Nasocort®

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Health Services
Pharmacare